



MSBML NEWSLETTER

July 2023

EXECUTIVE UPDATES

Past Meetings:

Executive Committee Meeting
May 17, 2023

[Agenda](#)

May Board Meeting
May 18, 2023

[Recording](#)

Upcoming Meetings:

Executive Committee Meeting
July 26, 2023
1:00 pm

[Live Stream](#)

Board Meeting
July 27, 2023
9:00 am

[Live Stream](#)

**Tentative Board Meeting
Date:**

September 20-21, 2023

IN THIS EDITION

Learn about medical cannabis from the Mississippi Department of Health and the growth of medical cannabis use in the state.

Hear from MSBML's Board Member of the Month and Staff Member of the Month.

SOCIAL MEDIA



MSBML SPOTLIGHTS



Dr. Thomas Joiner
Board Member

Dr. Thomas Joiner currently serves as the Chief Medical Officer at Molina Healthcare of Mississippi and practices family medicine.

Dr. Joiner was raised in Greenwood, MS and earned his undergraduate degree at Ole Miss. He completed medical school at the University of MS School of Medicine.

He serves on the MSBML to offer guidance to physicians and citizens using his experience. He finds such work crucial to navigating the rapidly changing medical landscape.

In his free time, Dr. Joiner loves spending time with his three children and five grandchildren. He also enjoys watching horse racing and the Triple Crown.

Thank you for your service to the MSBML, Dr. Joiner!

Jerod Smoote serves as the IT Director at the MSBML. He ensures the agency's technology needs are met and works to build on the technical foundation at MSBML.

Jerod studied computer programming at Northwest Mississippi Community College and earned his bachelor's degree in IT Services at Mississippi State University.

He enjoys working with his MSBML colleagues and is grateful to work in a supportive and welcoming environment. Jerod also likes the challenges of the IT field that consistently present opportunities for growth.

Outside of work, Jerod loves to spend time with his family and create lifelong memories.

We thank Jerod for his work at the MSBML!



Jerod Smoote
IT Director, MSBML



Medical Cannabis in Mississippi

by: Dr. Justin Turner, Chief Medical Officer, Mississippi State Department of Health

I bring you greetings on behalf of the Mississippi Department of Health (MSDH). Thank you for the opportunity to provide a summary of the state's medical cannabis program.

Governor Tate Reeves signed the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act ([SB 2095](#)) into law in February 2022, permitting the use of medical cannabis for certain debilitating medical conditions. MSDH, in partnership with the Mississippi Department of Revenue (MDOR), was required to develop a medical cannabis program.

The [Mississippi Department of Health](#) is the primary agency that provides oversight to the medical cannabis program and is responsible for the licensing, regulating and enforcement of laws relating to:

- Patient cards
- Medical Practitioners
- Cannabis Cultivation Facilities
- Cannabis Processing Facilities
- Cannabis Testing Facilities
- Cannabis Waste Disposal Entities
- Cannabis Transportation Entities
- Work Permits for individual working in medical cannabis establishments.

MDOR is tasked with licensing, regulating,

and enforcing the law for medical cannabis dispensaries. The [Alcoholic Beverage Control Enforcement Division](#) of MDOR is the point division within their agency for licensing and regulating dispensaries. MDOR is also responsible for enforcing medical cannabis laws as they apply to the proper purchase, sale, and distribution of medical cannabis at dispensaries. Medical cannabis use was authorized in Mississippi [as of June 1, 2022](#).

The Mississippi Medical Cannabis Program (MMCP) provides a safe and accessible program that meets the needs of patients and the public health and safety of all Mississippi residents. Applications are accepted for patients and caregivers, medical practitioners, facilities, and services. Below is a summary as of 6/20/2023.

As more clinicians become registered with the MMCP as certifiers, it is our goal to provide a tool in your toolbox that maybe a safe, effective option for your patients. Do not hesitate to contact Callie Anyan at the provider line (601) 206-1540 for direct communication. For any additional information please refer to our website at <https://www.mmcp.ms.gov/>.



Medical Cannabis in Mississippi:

By The Numbers

16,000+ *Enrolled Patients*

Registered Caregivers **60**

271 *Registered Practitioners*

Dispensaries Licensed **181**

2,100+ *Work Permits Issued*

MSDH Licensed Medical Cannabis Establishments

